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AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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HIT-AND-RUN VICTIM

Town rallies together for Alex

Several events raising money to help paralyzed AHS student

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

With the establishment of #TeamAlex, the support for Agawam High School sophomore Alex Scafuri is growing.

Scafuri, who was struck by a car on his way home from volleyball try-outs on March 16, is now in Atlanta receiving specialized treatment for his injuries.

Back home, his extended family and friends have planned numerous fundraisers to help the family with the uncovered costs of Scafuri's medical expenses.

Maria Gensheimer, Scafuri's aunt, announced there will be a benefit event on May 31 from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Polish American Club at 139 Southwick St. in Feeding Hills. The cost for the event is \$20 per person, with children aged 10 and under free of charge.

There will be food, raffle prizes and a DJ throughout the event. Gensheimer says the family has been overwhelmed by the amount of support they have received from the community.

ALEX | page 10

READING RECOVERY



Patricia Belisle, a teacher at Granger Elementary School, works with Maci Clayton on her reading skills. Belisle is one of Agawam's seven specialized reading teachers who work individually with first graders who have the most difficulty reading. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Individual aid helps students soar in school and life

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Maci Clayton used to struggle with reading and writing. Now the six-year-old first grader at Granger Elementary School is not only an avid reader but she also wants to be a writer one day.

Maci is participating in a special intervention program called Reading Recovery, designed by a New Zealand educator in the

1970s and used in Agawam for two decades.

Students receive individual instruction by specially trained teachers in Agawam's four elementary schools, daily 30-minute lessons that last 12 to 20 weeks.

Susan Meunier, Maci's grandmother and guardian, said the program has helped Maci gain self-confidence in reading.

"Maci reads more fluently, has progressed to chapter books, and recognizes her favorite author for her selections," Meunier said.

"I've been reading to her since she was very young. Now she reads to me."

Patricia Belisle, one of Agawam's seven Reading Recovery teachers, works with Maci and other Granger students.

"Each student learns in a unique way," Belisle said. "Reading Recovery allows me to develop lessons based on a child's strengths, so instruction time isn't wasted on what the child already knows."

READING | page 15

KIDNEY EXCHANGE

Making a match

Friend can't give his kidney, but finds a way to save a life

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Paige Anderson and Jason Weaver were already friends. But together, they went through a process that will link them forever in a very touching circle of life.

Anderson, a resident of Agawam, had a kidney disease for many years that was under control. In 2002, Weaver, a longtime family friend, was tested to see if he might be a potential match to give her a kidney.

But when Anderson's kidney had stabilized, the donation was put on hold, and both went about their own lives.

MATCH | page 5



Paige Anderson, left, of Agawam, and kidney donor Jason Weaver, right, talk with Baystate Medical Center Transplant Nurse Mary Ann Kleeberg last Tuesday at the hospital. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

CITY COUNCIL

Procurement officer proposal questioned

By Michael J. Ballway
and Gregory A. Scibelli
aan@turley.com

While the mayor says he's been waiting a year to hire a procurement officer, at least one city councilor says she'd like to wait a little longer — until there's a clear job description.

Councilor Gina Letellier spoke out on April 6 against the first reading of a proposal to add the position, which would be responsible for writing requests for proposals — bid specs — and making sure that all purchasing processes in town follow state law. Letellier said the last job description she saw mentioned no minimum requirements for education or experience and did not specify whether the job would oversee purchasing for "town-side" departments only, or would also include the School Department.

COUNCIL | page 5



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20 PAGES

Are You Old News?



Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to aan@turley.com. Please include your first and last name.



Last week's photo: There were no correct responses for Annemarie Zaffetti.

Correction



Celine Lopes



Alexis Kupiec

A finalist in Agawam Idol was misidentified in a photo caption in last week's Agawam Advertiser News. The photo at the left on page 6 was of Celine Lopes of Monson, the third-place finisher. The correct photo for Alexis Kupiec of Agawam, the second-place finisher, is also printed above right.

Eat, drink, learn at Turkish Cultural Night

The Turkish Cultural Center of Western Massachusetts will host a Turkish Cultural Night on Friday, April 17, at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

The event, which begins at 6 p.m., will include a short video highlighting the culture of Turkey, focusing on the myths and realities surrounding Islam, followed by homemade Turkish appetizers and authentic coffee. Information about activities and events at the Turkish Cultural Center of Western Massachusetts, located in Agawam, will be available.

The Turkish Cultural Center of

Western Massachusetts is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting harmony in diverse cultural settings and building, increasing, and fostering friendships through promoting a better understanding based on mutual respect between persons of American background and those of Turkish background.

The public is invited to enjoy an evening learning more about Turkish culture and enjoying Turkish food and coffee. This event is free and open to the public. Registration is not required.

For more information, call 413-789-1550, ext. 8855.

Common Core forum is May 18

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

Agawam Parents for Children First, a grassroots group formed last year to oppose federal- and state-mandated changes in curriculum and testing, will host a Common Core Information Session with guest speakers next month at the Senior Center.

Michele Labonte-Veras, the leader of the parents group, told the City Council this week that she hopes to organize Agawam parents, grandparents, teachers and taxpayers together with similar groups across the state to oppose the new national standards and the Partnership of Readiness for College and Careers test, or PARCC, which is replacing MCAS as the state's standardized test.

"I have learned this is a political fight," Labonte-Veras said. Across the state, she added, "parents, teachers, administrators, along with the School Committee, were not given a chance to comment. ... This is not [just] an Agawam School District issue."

The informational session is 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, May 18, at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St.

Guest speakers will include Dr. Sandra Stotsky, English-language arts standards expert, member of the Common Core Validation Committee and former senior associate commissioner at the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; and Jamie Gass, director of the Center for School Reform at the Pioneer Institute, who has framed, commissioned and managed more than 60 research papers and numerous policy events on K-12 education reform topics.

After a presentation, the panelists will take questions from the audience. Some topics to be addressed include:

- Who created the Common Core program? Who voted to adopt it?
- Are Common Core math and English standards less rigorous than the existing Massachusetts statewide curriculum?
- Will local teachers lose their ability to address individual children's needs?

Agawam City Councilor Anthony Suffriti said he hoped town residents would attend the forum.

"People need to get involved and stand for what is right for the children," Suffriti said.

For more information, visit <https://twitter.com/commoncoreforum>.



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Bigger book club eyes April 30 ‘symposium’

By Gregory A. Scibelli
 gscibelli@turley.com

The new book club at the Agawam Public Library is a big deal.

Richard Morassi, a former city councilor, is piloting a large-group book club on April 30, and he is inviting more residents to join in on the fun.

Morassi, now retired, splits his time between Agawam and Florida. In Florida, he is part of a book club that includes more than 30 people.

“Because the number of participants swelled to over 30,” said Morassi. “The normal book club discussion was not possible. Instead, an alternate format was adopted. Once the book was introduced, discussion commenced with participants sharing their thoughts and reactions to the book, one at a time and only once.”

Morassi said the experience he had was really positive and allowed him to get a lot of interesting perspectives.

“We had people in our group that came from all different kinds of backgrounds,” said Morassi. “We read a lot of books that had a lot of cultural and contemporary issues. So I heard a lot of different opinions. It can really be eye-opening.”

Morassi says smaller book discussions involve a lot of back-and-forth discussions, but he enjoyed the larger club shares because it includes more people.

Because of the different perspectives, Morassi believes the experience would also qualify as a cultural event.

“I went to both the Cultural Council and the Friends of the Agawam Public Library and I pitched the event,” said Morassi.

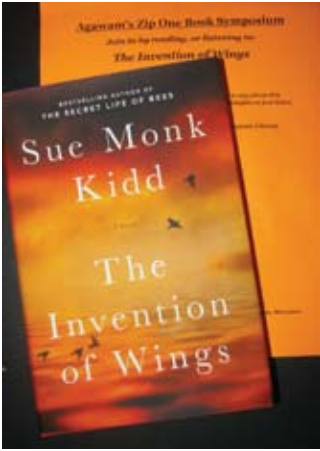
The organizing committee for the event has coined the event “Zip One Book Symposium.” The book selected is “The Invention of Wings” by Sue Monk Kidd. Readers will attend the gathering on Thursday, April 30, at 7 p.m. at the library. The library expects to have at least 20 copies of the book available, Morassi said.

The symposium is also open to people who haven’t read the book and simply want to listen to readers’ comments.

“I think this group has the potential to be really popular and productive,” said Morassi. “We can get a lot of people involved and there is no budget required to put on this event.”

To help promote the event, Morassi noted four Agawam city councilors have agreed to read the book and take part in the customer. Morassi said he recruited councilors Robert Rossi, Dennis Perry, Joseph Mineo and Gina Letellier.

For more information about taking part in the book discussion or to check the availability of the book, call the Agawam Public Library at 413-789-1550.



Sue Monk Kidd’s “The Invention of Wings” is the inaugural selection for the Zip One Book Symposium, a large-group book club meeting April 30 at the Agawam Public Library. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

Paint party to raise money for cancer Relay

By Mike Lydick
 aan@turley.com

Christine Foley is turning her love of painting into a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life of Agawam with a “paint ‘n’ sip” event at St. Anne Country Club in Feeding Hills.

Foley is hoping to attract as many as a 100 aspiring painters to join her to put paint to canvas, sip their favorite beverage, enjoy some light appetizers, and create a keepsake painting of an anchor attached to a cancer ribbon. Foley said painting fundraisers have become popular lately, so she decided to hold a painting party to raise money for her Relay team, “Nellie’s Knockers.”

“As a painter, I love the idea of creating a keepsake in remembrance or support of someone in a person’s life who has been affected by cancer. I’m hoping we will bring in a large crowd. It’s a fun way to raise money for a great cause.”

“Paint night” will be held Friday, April 17, from 7 to 9 p.m. According to Foley, the cost is \$40 per person, \$25 of goes to event sponsor Paint Sip Fun to cover the cost of supplies and staff. St. Anne is donating the space and is charging only \$5 per person to provide light appetizers and a cash bar. The remaining \$10 per person will go directly to Foley’s team to benefit the Relay for Life.

Foley said she joined the team to help raise money for the cancer Relay because of her daughter Madelyne, a 16-year-old cancer survivor.

“Madelyne was diagnosed as an infant with a neuroblastoma on her kidney,” said Foley. “At just 2 months old, Madelyne received her first major surgery — the first of four she incurred before the age of 5.”

Neuroblastoma is a rare type of childhood cancer that develops in infants and young children.

“We were told that she would require extensive chemotherapy and had very slim survival chances,” said Foley.

But Madelyne beat the odds and the diagnosis. Today, she’s a healthy, active teenager with minimal side effects from some of her diagnosed diseases. Foley said that because of organizations like the American Cancer Society and its Relay for Life events, parents now have far more resources to help them with co-payments, get help with travel expenses, and find support groups.

“None of this was available to me — and I know what a huge difference it would have made,” said the West Springfield resident.

Foley, who took up painting about three years ago after attending a paint night, found the anchor and ribbon pic-



Aspiring artists are invited to create their own keepsake paintings of this anchor and cancer ribbon as part of a fundraising event for Relay for Life. SUBMITTED IMAGE

ture while on Pinterest looking for painting ideas.

“The image of an anchor attached to a cancer ribbon symbolizes how love, hope, and faith can anchor us through any struggle,” she said. “I intend on getting this image tattooed on my foot this summer. I thought this also would make a very universal — and meaningful — painting.”

Erin Leigh Rhindress, owner Paint Sip Fun, which is based in Hampden, will guide participants in creating their paintings. Foley emphasized that no painting experience is required and that the painting’s colors and images can be personalized: “All you need to bring is enthusiasm.”

The fourth annual Relay for Life of Agawam will be held at School Street Park in May. The 18-hour Relay begins at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 15, and ends at noon on Saturday, May 16. During the event, teams will walk around the perimeter of the park’s ball field. At least one member of each Relay team will walk throughout the night to symbolize that cancer never sleeps.

The fundraising goal for the 2015 Relay is \$85,000. Since the Relay has been held in Agawam, it has raised more than \$250,000. Foley said her team set a goal of raising \$1,000 this year, but so far has raised more than \$3,500.

“We are going strong and will continue to raise money for this year’s Relay. There should never be a limit as to how much money we can raise to fight cancer,” she added.

Tickets for the painting fundraiser can be purchased at www.paintsipfun.com.

Pet painting to support cancer society

The Agawam Dog Owners Group will host a “Paint Your Pet” fundraiser on Monday, April 20, from 6-9 p.m. at Captain Jimmy’s Restaurant, 916 Suffield St., Agawam, in support of the American Cancer Society’s Bark for Life of the Pioneer Valley.

Experienced artists from Paint Sip Fun will sketch attendees’ pets on canvas from a picture that is emailed upon registration, and will have it ready to be painted that evening. No experience is necessary. PSF artists will be on hand to help create the portrait. Any animal, including cat, bird, hamster, lizard or dog, living or deceased, may be painted.

The event is for for participants age 14 and over. The cost is \$35, with all profits going directly to the American Cancer Society.

To register, visit www.paintsipfun.com and scroll through the calendar for this event. Registration deadline is April 16, at which time pet photos are also due. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. To submit a pet photo, or for more information, email info@paintsipfun.com.

The American Cancer Society’s Bark for Life of the Pioneer Valley is a noncompetitive walk event for dogs and their owners to raise funds and awareness for the American Cancer Society’s fight against cancer. This year’s event takes place on Sunday, May 3, at Stanley Park, Westfield. To join the Agawam Dog Owners Group Bark for Life event team, email adogsecretary@gmail.com. The public is invited to bring their best canine friend and enjoy a fun-filled day starting with a walk and continuing with demonstrations, contests and games.

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Opinion

OUR VIEW

In response to tragedy, a cause to take heart

When tragedy strikes a member of the Agawam community, the town pulls together to support its own. We're seeing this again with Alex Scafuri, the high school student who was struck in a hit-and-run accident last month. Fellow students are conducting a "penny war" fundraiser to help with Scafuri's medical expenses. The business community is stepping up with benefit promotions of its own. Family friends and ordinary folks from around Agawam are donating to the Scafuri medical fund at www.giveforward.com.

This sort of outpouring has happened so many times that it feels ordinary and automatic, like the streetlights coming on at dusk or the ice melting every spring. Of course, it's neither one. An Agawam family will never be the same because of this crime. The dozens of people who have organized fundraisers made a decision to give up a portion of their lives to help a neighbor. Even the hundreds of people who "just" attended an event or donated money did something extraordinary. They, too, are making a gift to a stranger, the gift of their time, the gift of the luxury that they won't purchase because of their contribution to Alex.

Still, that's life in a small town — even a big small town like Agawam. What's been even more heartwarming, in the response since mid-March, is how #TeamAlex has members outside the borders of Agawam. That includes a fundraiser at Wilbraham & Monson Academy — spearheaded by students who live in Agawam, and timed to coincide with a volleyball game against Agawam High School — but also, most notably, a school-wide fundraiser at South Hadley High School.

The high schoolers in South Hadley have no connection to Alex, the Scafuri family or Agawam. They aren't part of this community. They're simply kind-hearted teenagers who saw a good cause and selflessly wanted to help.

One of the organizers said he was inspired to start the fundraiser simply because a news story about the accident struck a chord with him. Another of the students said he was happy to "pay it forward" after receiving help himself from a nonprofit group last year.

Some people choose to focus on life's injustices — the fact that bad things can happen to good people, the fact that an innocent teenager, just trying to get home from volleyball practice, can be brutally injured by an alleged drunk driver. But when these same people complain about the self-centered, disconnected younger generation, remember those generous souls at Agawam High, Wilbraham & Monson Academy and South Hadley High — some of them Alex's friends, some of them complete strangers — who are showing the depths of their compassion. And when those people lament the death of small-town America and community spirit, tell them they're alive and well, and always ready to step up when tested, here in Agawam.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.



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Letters to the Editor

Many contributed to St. Pat's award

Congratulations. The Agawam St. Patrick Committee took the first place award for their Irish theme float, "A Bit of the Old Sod."

Talk about teamwork and community building. Every member took on tasks from April 2014 through March 2015, including fundraising, prep and building, gathering materials for the float, programs and gifts for the Colleen and her court, each gifted ladies. The judges had a difficult time this year's selection.

Many happy events and generous volunteers helped with the transportation

of the float to the parade, and volunteers prepared food for all on parade day. Bless all of our sponsors for the dollars which helped to build our winning float. A huge thank you goes out to the Agawam Cultural Council, Six Flags, the Agawam Senior Center and St. John's Church.

Please visit the Agawam Public Library to see our glass case of awards and our 2015 trophy for first place win in the 2015 Holyoke Parade.

The Agawam St. Patrick Committee

JAY SPEAKS

Fixation on 'Fiddler'

For several Augusts, Kitty and I have wended our way north to West Swanzey, N.H. There, at Pilgrim Pines, we have attended a Road Scholar program (formerly Elder Hostel). It is primarily music oriented with programs on opera, Broadway musicals, religious music and the like. The program concludes with an evening of the Craig Hart family entertaining us with a wide variety of their talents, leading up to Craig's rendition of "If I were a Rich Man" from "Fiddler on the Roof." Craig is a former Metropolitan Opera bass-baritone and this song is perfect for his style.

I have had a romance with "Fiddler" since it appeared on Broadway in the 1970s. Kitty and I have seen it on Broadway, in the movies, at local stage companies, touring professionals, and most recently last Sunday on the stage at our congregation, Sinai Temple in Springfield.

There are a great number of reasons why it appeals to me, as well as many, many ethnic audiences. The first attraction is the locale of the storyline. The Shetl is called Anatevka, somewhere in greater Russia, in the year 1905. My dad Samuel was born in Shepetovka. Somewhere in the performance it is mentioned that Kiev is close by, and Shepetovka is fairly close to Kiev.

Fiddler ends with the entire village leaving for the United States, and Shepetovka must have had a similar experience, because in one of the Boston suburbs there is a cemetery with the name Shepetovka ... for villagers who migrated from there.

Also in "Fiddler," a young man appears in Anatevka and announces that he is from Kiev. He develops a fondness for one of Tevye's daughters and eventually they end up on a train to Siberia. In our family, Kitty's grandmother had a sister named Cele. She fell in love with a radical student from Kiev and eventually they ended up in

Siberia. In fact, Kitty's middle name is Cele after her grandmother's sister.

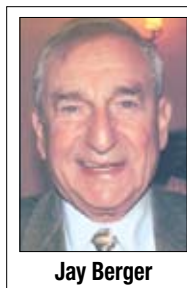
My dad's father, named Gershon (Americanized to Joseph), left Shepetovka in 1898 and landed in New York. My dad said that after he left the ship, there were a great number of kiosks on the waterfront. Each kiosk was for a particular city where they were looking for workers in a certain industry. Lowell for woolens, Haverhill for shoes, and the one where Gershon went, Lawrence for fabrics. Each kiosk arranged transportation with a promise of housing and a job.

In 1903, he had saved enough money to send for the balance of his family. Gershon was very involved in the strike for better wages and working conditions in Lawrence known worldwide as the "Bread and Roses Strike." A thrown rock struck my grandfather and he lost the sight of an eye.

In the play "Fiddler," the townspeople use the respectful term "Reb" (not to be confused with the term Rabbi) for those who could read and knew more about worldly affairs. Gershon was always spoken to as "Reb" Gershon. He had another accolade — that was "Reb Gershon the Roiter," meaning "Gershon the Red." I always thought that referred to his beard, which indeed was red. But no ... it referred to his politics, which were socialist trending to Communist.

"Fiddler" has a great story line that I can identify with, and many songs that I can hum along with. I will continue to attend movies and plays and continue to love and admire "Fiddler." It speaks to my background and upbringing.

Jay Berger is retired from a job in publishing and lives in Agawam with his wife Kitty. They have three children and six grandchildren.



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COUNCIL ■ from page 1

"I would hope that [proponents] would be concerned enough about our future that we wouldn't rush it through and do it wrong," Letellier said.

On Tuesday, Mayor Richard Cohen said he would prepare a new job description in time for the Legislative Subcommittee's planned April 8 meeting, after the Agawam Advertiser News' deadline. He added, however, that he believes the City Council's role is to approve the concept and provide funding; the details of hiring and oversight belong to the executive branch.

Cohen said he's been asking that the City Council establish this position for a year. Councilor James Cichetti, who chairs the council's Legislative Subcommittee, said he recently decided to revisit the proposal.

"I learned there is a state law that says that someone in town needs to be designated as the Chief Procurement Officer," said Cichetti.

In small towns, the procurement officer is often someone already employed in some additional capacity, such as a town manager. Cohen said cities and towns of Agawam's size generally have at least one person who focuses entirely on procurement. He said West Springfield, for example, has a two-person department. Furthermore, only one current town employee, the Community Preservation Act administrator, holds the correct state certification to serve as a procurement officer — despite the fact that the procurement process is currently run by individual department heads, the Law Department and the mayor.

Jennifer Bonfiglio, the CPA administrator, has handled procurements for CPA projects and also has assisted the town for other projects. Cohen said a former law clerk also was certified. For the schools, the business manager has been handling procurements, Cohen said.

Cohen said he is confident that Agawam's "millions of dollars" of annual procurements will provide enough work for a separate procurement officer.

"The idea of a procurement officer is to research and make sure we are getting the best bang for our dollars," Cohen said. "In

the end, it saves us money."

At the council meeting, Letellier also said that the job description is being left undefined because "we know who we want to hire." She later declined to elaborate on her statement.

The mayor said the hiring process, if the position is approved, will follow the same competitive procedure as any other opening.

"All positions are posted," Cohen said. "It has to be posted in-house first. If nobody is selected by the committee in-house, it will be opened" to outside candidates.

At a March 30 meeting of the Legislative Subcommittee, councilors debated over what parts of the town budget would be responsible for paying for the position, which carried a salary of at least \$51,000 in the proposal made by Cohen last year.

Councilor Robert Rossi believes that part of the salary should come from the water and sewer enterprise funds. Both are self-sustaining budgets funded by user fees. The procurement officer would be responsible for preparing documents for projects in both divisions.

Other areas could include the Department of Public Works and the general government budget.

Rossi also argued the School Department should use the procurement officer and contribute to part of the salary. "I really believe this procurement officer should handle projects for the town and for the schools," said Rossi. "I don't think there is enough work on the town side for this job."

Cohen, who did not attend the subcommittee meeting, said he would be happy to have the town and schools share the procurement officer, but believes there is more than enough work on the town side to justify the position.

"It is a lot of work and research to put together documents for all the different projects the town does," said Cohen. "This is something we definitely need and that is why I proposed it last year. I am glad to see that the City Council has decided to pick this up and bring it back forward."

MATCH ■ from page 1

Weaver's included five tours of duty in the Armed Forces while Anderson worked for a property management firm, a job she has had for many years.

But about a year and a half ago, her kidney functions began to fail and she was faced with finding a donor, or possibly losing her life. Weaver again stepped up to the plate, but with modern technology and further testing, he was found to be no longer a match for Anderson and could not donate.

"It is possible changes over time could have caused them not to be a match anymore," said Mary Ann Kleeberg, a transplant nurse at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield. "Also, testing technologies have improved."

Kleeberg said knowing now Anderson and Weaver were not a match could have meant Anderson would have rejected Weaver's kidney 13 years ago.

But Anderson still had a need and Weaver was still willing to give a kidney. The two were entered into an exchange program. About two months ago, they were paired with another set of two people, a person in need of a transplant and a friend who was willing to donate.

That donor was compatible for Anderson, while Weaver's kidney matched the other patient in need of a transplant.

"It's such a wonderful program when we are able to find pairs that are a match with each other," said Kleeberg, who could not name the other pair due to privacy laws.

About two months ago, Weaver and Anderson both underwent surgery at Baystate. Weaver's kidney was removed and brought to be donated to the individual in the exchange. Anderson received her needed kidney.

Both have been in recovery since that time.

"Everything has been going really well," said Anderson. "I am so grateful for the opportunity to have a working kidney again."

In the first six weeks following the surgery, Anderson has shown no signs of rejection. Kleeberg has been guiding Anderson and Weaver through the process, and is very pleased with their progress.

"Paige has been a wonderful patient and she has flown through the recovery," said Kleeberg.

Kleeberg says even though Weaver was not the direct donor for Anderson, their relationship and willingness to pair together made it possible for Anderson to receive her donation.

"I think it is the fact that they are such good friends that makes their story so unique," said Kleeberg. "It's truly amazing and stories like this and helping give people life makes my heart beat."

Weaver downplayed the importance of his role, saying he simply laid on the table and gave the kidney, something he was happy to do.

"I don't feel like I gave up much," said Weaver. "I think the real credit goes to all the surgeons who did great work on Paige and I."

Anderson said she is grateful to Anderson for his sacrifice and for the exchange program that made her donation possible. She returned to work in late March — coincidentally, Kidney Donation Awareness Month — and says she feels more energetic and alive than she has in the past.

"Before, I relied on a lot of medication for my kidney function," said Anderson. "It made me tired and run-down. I can't describe the energy I have now. I am more active and not as fatigued anymore."

Weaver has been recovering at home with his girlfriend at his home in New Hampshire. With his family still in the Springfield area and his longtime friendship with Anderson, however, Weaver makes frequent visits to the area.

Both said they were proud to promote kidney donation awareness for Baystate.

"When we joined the exchange program, it helped make me aware of the need and that it exists," said Weaver.

Anderson says she will always be grateful to the program and will do what she can to promote awareness.

"I think this program is so important and people should know that there is another option out there for them," said Anderson.

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750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA

It's time to sell the family home, and you want to make sure you get top dollar. Learn from our panel of experts how to make your home emotionally appealing to buyers, tackle deferred maintenance, and navigate the inspection process.

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In the Classroom

Sign up by Tuesday for robotics teams

Agawam Robotics Education Association will host a registration session for all levels of robotics program for 2015-16 school year Tuesday, April 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

* Junior FIRST Lego League is a program for students in kindergarten through grade 3 in Agawam, which introduces the young-er students to the world of science and technology. This program features a real-world challenge to be solved by research, critical thinking and imagination. Guided by parent coaches, students work with Lego elements and moving parts to create solutions and present them for review. This program is sponsored by Agawam Robotics to Agawam students free of charge.

* FIRST Lego League is a program for Agawam students in grades 4 to 6 that introduces them to real-world engineering challenges by building Lego-based robots

to complete tasks on a thematic playing surface. FLL teams, guided by their imaginations and adult coaches, discover career possibilities and through the process, learn to make positive contributions to society. Registration fee for this program is \$50 per student and \$25 for each additional student in the same family when signed up at the same time.

* FIRST Tech Challenge is geared toward Agawam students in grades 7 and 8. Teams are responsible to develop strategy, designing and building robots based on sound engineering principles, then programming their robots to compete in an alliance format against other teams. Registration fee for this level is \$75 per student.

For more information, visit www.usfirst.org. Anyone not able to attend the sign-up session may contact Wincy Chan at wincychan@comcast.net for more information.

Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

College Acceptances: Dylan Marshall: Navy; Sarah Kamukala: Northeastern University, New York University, Boston University, Quinnipiac University, UMass Amherst, UMass Boston; Jeffrey Leclerc: George Washington University; Stephen Mateus: Western New England University, UMass Amherst, Suffolk University; Ashley Tibbetts: Western New England University; Xinming “Simon” Li: Merrimack College.

Open Houses/Informational Sessions: Many colleges are hosting events in the next few weeks. Check the college website for more information and to confirm the date and time of the event.

American International College: April 11, 25; Babson College: April 19, 24; Bay Path College: April 18, 25; Castleton State College: April 18; Champlain College: April 18, 25; Clark University: April 11, 18, 25; Colby Sawyer College: April 25; Connecticut College: April 11, 18; Dean College: April 18; Elms College: April 25; Emmanuel College: April 18, 25; Endicott College: April 25; Fairfield University: April 25; Fitchburg State University: April 11, 25; Framingham State University: April 25; Franklin Pierce University: April 11, 25; Gordon College: April 29; Hampshire College: April 22; Johnson State College: April 24; Lasell College: April 18, 25; Lyndon State College: April 24; Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts: April 20, 25; Mt. Ida College: April 11; New England College: April 11; New England Institute of Technology: April 25; Quinnipiac University: April 11, 18, 25; Regis College: April 21, 22, 23; Roger Williams University: April 12; Saint Anselm’s College: April 20-24; Saint Michael’s College: April 18; Smith College: April 25; Southern New Hampshire College: April 20; Springfield College: April 6, 8, 17, 20, 22, 24, 27; Sterling College: April 25; Wheaton College: April 18; Wellesley College: April 25; Wentworth Institute of Technology: April 11; University of Massachusetts Dartmouth: April 11; University of Vermont: April 25.

American Legion Youth Cadel Law Enforcement Program: This program is sponsored by the American Legion. Youths looking to increase their understanding of the job of police officers and to be exposed to the demands of police training are encouraged to apply to this one-week, intensive, summer residential learning program for ages 15-17. There is a fee. Visit www.legion.org/juniorlaw/about for more information and to apply. Space is limited. Due: April 30.

ACTs: June 13 (sign up by May 8).

SATs: May 2 (sign up by April 6); June 6 (sign up by May 8).

Nurse’s Aide Course: Professional Care Academy, 270 Main St., Agawam, has open-

ings for this course. Students must be a high school graduate and can enroll in either a four- or five-week course followed by the completion of 116 clinical hours. Upon completion of the course, a home health aide certification will be earned. Books and uniform are included in the \$1,000 fee. One \$250 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior. If interested, call 413-391-7926 for more information or to enroll. See Ms. Sheehan in the Career Center if you have any further questions.

Academy Day: Congressman Richard E. Neal will be hosting this on April 26 at 12:30 p.m. at Westover Air Reserve Base, Wing Conference Center. This is an opportunity to meet U.S. service academy representatives from West Point, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy as well as representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC), Norwich University and Mass Maritime Academy. Attendees will learn about academy life from cadets and midshipmen, as well as the nominations and appointments process for academies. Pre-registration is required for this event by April 3. Visit neal.house.gov for details and registration form.

Springfield National College Fair: NACAC invites students to the Big E on Sunday, April 12, from 1 to 4 p.m. Register for the college fair at www.gotomyncf.com. It will save you time by providing you with a personalized barcode that can be scanned at each booth rather than having to write your information multiple times. You may also view a list of participating institutions by clicking on the college fair link on the same website. Check the list often for updates.

STCC STEM Academy: Open to seniors with a minimum 2.00 GPA who are interested in pursuing a STEM career (science, technology, engineering or math field) and plan on attending STCC in the fall. This academy begins in the summer and is free for accepted participants. Program participants earn a \$400 stipend, free college courses, attend free field trips to learn more about STEM careers, hear from STEM experts and participate in hands-on activities with some of the STEM professors. Interested applicants must submit a STCC admissions application for the fall and a STEM Starter Academy application. The STEM Starter Academy application is available at www.stcc.edu/stemacademy/. Students must submit both applications by May 1.

Scholarships: See your counselor for more information or an application.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL
The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school’s website.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Monday, April 13: Chicken drummies, baked fries, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, April 14: All-beef taco, cheese, lettuce and tomato, seasoned white rice, steamed corn, fresh and chilled fruit.
Wednesday, April 15: Macaroni and cheese, garlic breadstick, steamed peas, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, April 16: Manager’s choice.
Friday, April 17: Personal pan pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, baked cookie.

ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL
Monday, April 13: Chicken drummies, baked fries, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, April 14: All-beef taco, cheese, lettuce and tomato, seasoned white rice, steamed corn, fresh and chilled fruit.
Wednesday, April 15: Macaroni and cheese, garlic breadstick, steamed peas, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, April 16: Manager’s choice.
Friday, April 17: Personal pan pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, baked cookie.

AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Monday, April 13: Chicken drummies, baked fries, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, April 14: All-beef taco, cheese, lettuce and tomato, seasoned white rice, steamed corn, fresh and chilled fruit.
Wednesday, April 15: Macaroni and cheese, garlic breadstick, steamed peas, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, April 16: Manager’s choice.
Friday, April 17: Personal pan pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, baked cookie.

ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU
Monday, April 13: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, cinnamon graham crackers, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.
Tuesday, April 14: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Nutri-Grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.
Wednesday, April 15: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.
Thursday, April 16: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.
Friday, April 17: Pillsbury mini chocolate-chip pancakes with syrup for dipping, mozzarella cheese string, chilled 1 percent low-fat milk, chilled juice.

AHS band, color guard alumni sought for May 16 Band-A-Thon

The Agawam High School Band Parents Association is hosting the second annual Band-athon from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 16, at Agawam High School, 760 Cooper St. The event will be held rain or shine.

In addition to raising much-needed funds for the award-winning AHS band program, the Band-athon will showcase the talent of current AHS band students participating in the high school’s marching band and color guard, symphony band, wind ensemble and jazz band. Musical performances throughout the day will also include AHS band alumni ensembles created

for this event, and established bands and musical groups containing alumni members.

The event will also include a DJ, food, crafter and vendor tables, raffle prizes, a dunk tank, face painting for kids and much more. Last year’s event was a great success and lots of fun.

All AHS band alumni, members of a band or musical group that would like to perform at this year’s Band-athon and all former AHS band and color guard members that would like to be a part of this event are asked to contact Jodi Albertson at msjodia@aol.com.

AJHS to present ‘Annie Jr.’

The Agawam Junior High School Drama Club will present “Annie Jr.” Tuesday and Wednesday, April 14 and 15, at 7 p.m. in the school’s auditorium. Based on “Little Orphan Annie” by permission of the Tribune Media Ser-

vices Inc., the musical was originally produced by Stephen R. Friedman. Tickets, which are are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children and free for all those under the age of 5, will be sold at the door. The public is invited.

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Dog park groundbreaking Tuesday

The mayor, Parks and Recreation Department and Agawam Dog Owners Group will host a ceremonial groundbreaking at 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, on the site of the long-awaited Agawam Dog Park.

The new dog park will be located at 124 Armory Drive, part of the Shea Field complex. Members of the public are invited to attend the groundbreaking.

Berkshire Design Group of Northampton has designed the park

and JL Construction of West Springfield will be constructing the park over the next couple of months. The grand opening is expected this summer.

Funding for this \$200,000 addition to the town came from a generous gift from the Stanton Foundation, which donated 100 percent of the design services and 90 percent of the construction costs. ADOG donated \$10,000 of privately raised money, and town Community Preservation Act funds added \$14,000.

Presentation to focus on helping home sellers

Glenmeadow Retirement will offer a panel presentation in Agawam that focuses on how to increase a home's value before listing it on the market. The event will take place Tuesday, April 14, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

The three panelists include Amy Woolf, an architectural color consultant from Northampton, Laura DuPont of Pioneer Valley Home Staging of Amherst, and Mark Roy of East Coast Home Inspections, LLC, of Enfield, Conn.

During the panel presentation, "Home Sweet Investment: Increasing Your Home's Value Before You Sell," the three will offer information on how sellers can make their homes emotionally appealing to buyers, tackle deferred maintenance and navigate the inspection process.

Seating is limited at this free event, and

registration is required; call 413-567-7800 or email learning@glenmeadow.org. Visit glenmeadow.org/learning for more information. Glenmeadow Retirement is at 24 Tabor Crossing, Longmeadow.

As an architectural color consultant, Woolf has won a national award for kitchen design and been recognized in national media.

DuPont advises sellers on interior enhancements and curb appeal. In 2007, she launched Pioneer Valley Home Staging along with her husband and business partner, Donald Perreault, who has more than 30 years of experience in landscaping and garden design.

Roy is a mechanical engineer whose seminars for first-time homebuyers received recognition from Connecticut Mortgage Bankers Association. He has inspected over 5,500 homes.

Tickets now available for 'In the Mood'

The St. John's Travel Club will host a bus trip to see the 1940s musical revue, "In the Mood," Wednesday, May 20, at the Emerson Colonial Theater, 106 Boylston St., Boston. A rhythmic, jazzy, brassy, romantic and patriotic 1940s production, this revue features a company of 19 on stage, a 13-piece Big Band and some high-flying swing dancing.

Tickets are \$146 per person. Those attending will attend lunch prior to the show at Phillips Restaurant, 780 Morrissey Blvd., Boston. A \$60 non-refundable deposit is due at sign-up with the balance due by April 25.

The bus will depart St. John's Church, 833 Main St., Agawam, and will return at approximately 6:45 p.m.

ACC seeks members

The Agawam Cultural Council will meet Tuesday, April 21, at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

A great opportunity exists with the ACC for anyone with an interest in providing diverse cultural events for the town. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor and funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members.

The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities and sciences to children and adults from Agawam and surrounding communities.

Teatime for the teddy bears

The Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., will again host the "Teddy Bear Tea" on Saturday, May 2, at 1 p.m. Featuring tea sandwiches and special desserts served by white-gloved waiters, this event is \$12 for adults and \$5 for girls under 12.

To purchase tickets, visit the church office Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon or at coffee hour.

Family craft day set for April 25

Forastiere Family Funeral & Cremation will host a Family Craft Day later this month.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will be 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 25, at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main St., Agawam. Refreshments will be served. All are invited to create gifts for Mother's and Father's Day, for teachers and grandparents, as a remembrance of a lost loved one or a simple thank you.

"This is the time of year when we are celebrating Mother's Day and Father's Day," said Frank Forastiere, president and funeral director of Forastiere Family Funeral & Cremation. "As part of our commitment to our community, we wanted to offer families a fun and creative way to mark those holidays, regardless of whether or not they have lost a loved one."

To reserve a spot, call 413-525-2800. For more information, visit forastiere.com.

African choir gives benefit concert

The African Children's Choir, known for its charming smiles, beautiful voices and lively African songs and dances, will perform a free concert in Agawam next month.

This all-ages event, featuring children's songs, traditional Spirituals and Gospel favorites, is at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at Bethany Assembly of God, 580 Main St. A free-will offering will support African

Children's Choir programs, such as education, care and relief and development programs.

The choir's parent organization, Music for Life, works in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan and Uganda. It has educated more than 52,000 children and impacted the lives of over 100,000 people through relief and development programs during its history.

The choir has preformed before several heads of state, including Queen Elizabeth II at her Diamond Jubilee. It recently recorded tracks with Sarah Hickman for a CD, "Love Is a Journey."

For more information, visit www.africanchildrenschoir.com or call Bethany Assembly of God at 413-789-2930.

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, April 13: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, oranges.

Tuesday, April 14: Chicken and broccoli alfredo, Caesar salad, Jell-O.

Wednesday, April 15: Baked ham, roasted sweet potatoes, peas, baked good.

Thursday, April 16: Chicken chow mein, brown rice, crunchy noodles, pudding.

Friday, April 17: Baked fish, rice pilaf, buttered spinach, peaches.

Calendar of Events

Monday, April 13: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo, Budget Seminar with Chris Casale (Garden Room); 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, April 14: 9 a.m., Knitting Class, Sewing Class; 10 a.m., Computer Club Meets; 12:30

p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie ("I Don't Know How She Does It"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., Chorus; 4 p.m., Disability Commission Meeting; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance, Garden Club Meeting; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class.

Wednesday, April 15: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Ballroom Lessons, Scrabble; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers Chapter 2 Meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Thursday, April 16: 9:30 a.m., Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Pitch, Open Art Class; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6:30 p.m., Pitch, Evening Line Dancing.

Friday, April 17: 8 a.m., Yoga; 9:15 a.m., All Media Art; 10 a.m., Tai Chi; Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage, Free Chorus Show ("Love Songs"); 5 p.m., 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 7 p.m., Free Chorus Show ("Love Songs").

'Gangsters in Love' at Senior Center

The Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., will host "Gangsters in Love" by Steve Henderson on Wednesday, April 29, from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Free and open to the public, this highly interactive comedy murder mystery is a unique theatrical experience.

The public is invited to join this cast and crew in the "making" of a Hollywood Western movie and solve a mystery while at it.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council, a local agency that is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Notes from the Music Room

By Darcy Davis

As we approach the home stretch for the "Love Songs" concert by the Memory Lane Chorus at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., on Friday, April 17, we would like to remind people that admission is free with a small donation accepted to help with expenses. There will be two performances, one at 1:30 p.m. and the other at 7 p.m.

We hope it will be an enjoyable afternoon or evening experience for attendees and also hope those in attendance will have an opportunity to visit the Music Room and all of its treasures.

A printed program will be available with some amazing artistic contributions by its designers and a wealth of information on many of the songs that will be sung in telling a "love story" through songs.

Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 303 calls for service from March 31 to April 6. The department made five arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, March 31

Mark Jachym, 35, of 37 E. Silver St., Apt. 2, Westfield, was arrested on a violation of an abuse prevention order.

Wednesday, April 1

Antonio V. Green, 27, of 14 Paul Revere Drive, Feeding Hills, was arrested on a charge of possession of a Class A drug, subsequent offense.

Friday, April 3

Michael Steenbuck, 54, of 23 Suffield St., Apt. 26,

Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Jose. A. Torres, 66, of 23 Suffield St., Apt. 3, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Monday, April 6

Antonio V. Green, 27, of 14 Paul Revere Drive, Feeding Hills, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear and on a charge of being a fugitive from justice on a court warrant.

FIRE LOG

Logs for March 31 to April 6 were not available from the Fire Department by press time. They will be printed in next week's Agawam Advertiser News.



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Legals

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD15P0531GD
In the interests of
Jayliah Isabella Bermudez
Of Feeding Hills, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL
INTERESTED PARTIES**

1. Hearing Date/Time:
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 03/31/2015 by **Santiago Bermudez** of Feeding Hills, MA **Jennifer M. Marquez** of Feeding Hills, MA will be held 04/28/2015 01:15 p.m. Motion. Located Probate and Family Ct., 50 State Street, 4th Fl. Springfield, Mass 01104.

2. Response to Petition:
You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.
Date: March 31, 2015

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
4/9/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD14P2534EA**

**Estate of:
Clara R Desotelle
Date of Death: 10/19/2014
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by: **Gene Desotelle** of Mason OH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testacy and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

And also requesting that: **Gene Desotelle** of Mason OH be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve on the bond.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on 04/21/2015.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory

and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 24, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
4/9/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD15P0545EA**

**Estate of:
Frances Pauline O'Connell
Also Known As:
Frances P. O'Connell
Date of Death:
February 4, 2015
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Daniel J. O'Connell** of Granby CT, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Daniel J. O'Connell of Granby CT has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will,

if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
4/9/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD11P1342PM
In the matter of:
Hermine M Pietruski
Of: Holyoke, MA
Protected Person/
Disabled Person/
Respondent
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF
CONSERVATOR'S
ACCOUNT**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the Temporary First and Final account(s) of **John E Sullivan** of Sequim, WA **John E. Sullivan** of Port Orchard, WA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 04/23/2015. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the account(s) at no cost

to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 26, 2015
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
4/9/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD15P0460EA**

**Estate of:
John Paul Grimaldi
Also Known As:
John Grimaldi
Date of Death:
January 20, 2015
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Stephen J Grimaldi** of El Dorado Hills, CA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Stephen J Grimaldi of El Dorado Hills, CA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition

the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
4/9/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD15P0493EA**

**Estate of:
Marjorie J. Sherman
Date of Death:
January 12, 2015
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Hyman G. Darling** of Springfield MA, Petitioner **Donald C. Anderson** of Sacramento CA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Hyman G. Darling of Springfield MA, **Donald C. Anderson** of Sacramento CA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
4/9/15

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the Agawam Advertiser News should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

AGAWAM COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Community Preservation Committee (CPC) will hold its annual public hearing at the Agawam Library Community Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 7:00PM. The Committee will provide an overview of the financial performance of the CPA fund as well as share recent accomplishments. The CPC will also welcome input on goals, activities, procedures and spending. The CPC is encouraging residents, town boards, committees and commissions to attend and discuss the needs and possibilities of projects that may qualify for Community Preservation Act funds. Please be advised that the CPA Committee is required by M.G.L. Ch. 44B to consult with existing municipal boards to study the needs, possibilities and resources of the city regarding community preservation.

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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A TURLEY PUBLICATION
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Six Flags 2015 season opens this Saturday

Fire chief touts good communication between town, amusement park

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Every year, hundreds of thousands of people visit Six Flags New England looking for a thrill, a scare, perhaps a harrowing ride.

Provided it's not in an ambulance. When those visits begin again this week-end, however, it's inevitable that the amusement park will have to call first responders at some point — and although Six Flags primarily depends on a contracted private ambulance, the Agawan Fire Department is ready. In fact, the town has been working behind the scenes with the park for some time to get ready for April 11.

“Every year, our inspection services have to perform a lot of inspections throughout the park,” said Fire Chief Alan Sirois. “We have to go through and learn about their rides and how they operate as well the typical safety inspections in all their eating ar-



Wicked Cyclone, the first hybrid steel-and-wood roller coaster on the East Coast, will debut at Six Flags New England next month — but the rest of the park opens April 11. SUBMITTED PHOTO

eas.”

The fire inspectors perform inspections at the beginning of every season to make sure the proper safety measures are taking place in all kitchens throughout the park

as well sprinkler systems that have to be installed in certain areas. The inspections each year do take a great deal of time, but good communication between the two parties has ensured everything goes smoothly.

Sirois said with the numerous new rides, he and his command staff have also made a point of doing yearly walk-throughs with the park's safety personnel to familiarize themselves with the new rides and their operations so they are prepared to respond if they are called upon.

The firefighters are not called to the park very often, and the ambulance services are only utilized at certain times.

“The park has a contract with an advanced life support service,” said Sirois. “We treat them as we would any other entity that we have a mutual aid agreement with. We are there to support them when they need us.” Sirois said the town's ambulance may be called upon if there are multiple patients that need service at the same time. He said

Park collecting DVDs for hospital

Six Flags New England is collecting gently used DVDs to donate to Baystate Children's Hospital. The DVD drive will take place Saturday, April 11, opening day for the 2015 season at the amusement park. DVDs may be dropped off at the main gate, on Main Street near the Connecticut line.

Donors will receive a coupon for \$20.15 off admission to the park. Six Flags will also donate \$1 per redeemed coupon to Baystate Children's Hospital. The DVDs will entertain the many children being treated at the Springfield hospital, the only accredited children's hospital in the region.

The DVDs must be in working condition. The hospital is looking for films rated G, PG or PG-13.

that does not happen often throughout the season.

The park also keeps the Fire Department aware of any concerts or other events that will draw bigger crowds, or crowds to one area of the park.

“In a lot of those cases, we will pre-stage our ambulance in a specific area,” said Sirois. “The park officials will usually send us a briefing of some kind prior to all events so we know what is going on and we know what to expect.”

He said the park's safety officials have done an excellent job to establish a good relationship with the Fire Department over the past several years. He also said Six Flags' safety staff is competent and well-trained to handle most emergencies, which makes his department's job easier.

“They have a big responsibility to maintain the safety of the people that visit the park,” Sirois said. “They take that very seriously.”

Notice of CPA committee openings

The Agawam Community Preservation Act Committee has two openings effective April 30. The positions are to be appointed by the City Council for a three-year term. The CPA Committee manages Agawam's share of Community Preservation Act funds, which are collected through a surcharge on local property taxes and a percentage match from the state. CPA funds can only be spent on conservation, preservation or housing projects.

Those interested in serving on the CPA Committee should contact Barbara Bard in the Agawam City Council office as soon as possible at 413-726-9716 or bbard@agawam.ma.us.

Tickets available for chicken supper

The Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., will host a chicken pie supper on Saturday, April 18, at 5:30 p.m. The menu will include chicken pie, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, cranberry sauce, salad, rolls and butter, coffee, tea, milk and dessert.

Tickets are \$15 per person and may be purchased in the church office, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon, at coffee hour and at the door.

YMCA to host Mohegan Sun trip

The Agawam YMCA, 63 Springfield St., will host a bus trip to Mohegan Sun the third Monday of each month, with the exception of January. This month's trip is scheduled for April 20. The bus will leave the YMCA parking lot at 8 a.m. Tickets are \$25 per person and include a \$15 meal ticket and two \$10 big wheel tickets. To reserve a seat, call Helen at 413-786-8685.

Author to discuss Korean War horse

Janet Barrett, author of “They Called Her Reckless,” will be the guest speaker at the AuthorTalk event scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

When the U.S. Marine 5th Regiment's Recoilless Rifle Platoon acquired a small Korean pony to haul ammunition up the steep hills to the front line, what they got was a real-life hero, Reckless. She was a warhorse who stood with her buddies for two years during the Korean War, saving many lives, raising spirits and winning the love and respect of all who knew her. To register for this event, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or visit www.agawamlibrary.org.

Vendor fair to benefit accident victim

The Feeding Hills Wellness Center, 567 Springfield St., will host a vendor fair, free to the public, Sunday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A bake sale will take place during the fair, with all proceeds from the bake sale to benefit Alex Scafuri, a student at Agawam High School that was critically injured when hit by a car recently on Springfield Street. For information on how to donate baked goods, call 413-244-4660.

Vendor items scheduled at the fair include glass jewelry, personal training and nutrition, essential oils, herbal products, therapy and massage sessions, bath salts, soy candles and more.

Exercise class to resume April 28

The Tuesday-Thursday morning PACE and exercise class will resume its regular class schedule at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., on Tuesday, April 28. For more information, call the Senior Center at 413-821-0605.

Agawam library to showcase student artwork

Thousand Cranes Studio, 505 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, will showcase student artwork from children ages 4-17, and a few parents, for the month of April at the Agawam Public Library. The artwork will be displayed on both levels of the library, at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Garden Club to host DPW representative

The Agawam Garden Club will meet Tuesday, April 14, at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. Guest speaker will be Tracy DeMaio from the Agawam Department of Public Works. She will talk on the town's composting efforts and will be available to answer questions on maintaining gardens around town.

In addition, Joan Perez will speak on community-supported agriculture gardens, specifically Calabrese Gardens. A compost bin will be raffled off.

Members and non-members are welcome.

Tax bills due May 1

Fourth quarter actual real estate and personal property tax bills for fiscal year 2015 are due in the collector's office by 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 1. Bills may also be paid online at www.agawam.ma.us.

Payment notices were mailed March 31. By law, bills were mailed to owners of record as of Jan. 1. Any new homeowner or anyone who has not received a real estate or personal property tax bill should contact the collector's office at 413-786-0400, ext. 8218, to obtain the bill amount.

- Residential And Commercial
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The hashtag #TeamAlex is just one way people have been showing support for Alex Scafuri, the Agawam resident struck in a hit-and-run accident in mid-March. SUBMITTED PHOTO

ALEX ■ from page 1

“We have had a huge outpouring of support for Alex,” said Gensheimer. “I’d like to thank all those who have donated so far and have made donations toward the benefit.”

#TeamAlex is still accepting donations for raffle prizes for the event.

#TeamAlex was established as unifying concept to keep Scafuri’s friends and family informed of his condition and about fundraisers and efforts to help him during his time of need.

Scafuri’s grandmother, Kristina Blystone, said there are numerous costs not covered by insurance, including the possibility of renovations needed for Scafuri’s home while he is in a wheelchair.

In Agawam, the Java Stop and neighboring business the Ice Cream Shoppe have held raffles and made donations. Take Five restaurant donated a portion of its sales recently to the fund for Scafuri. A campaign at www.giveforward.com is also active and more than \$30,000 has been raised from various sources.

“The community has done some amazing things to help Alex,” said Blystone.

In addition to the benefit at the Polish Club, the Facebook page for Team Alex has announced The Barber, a local barber shop on Springfield Street, will hold a “Cut-athon” on Sunday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Adult cuts are \$20 and kids aged 13 and under are \$15, with all proceeds donated Scafuri. The business will also accept any other donations to the cause.

At Agawam High School, students and faculty made generous donations immediately after learning of Scafuri’s accident. “I think the Thursday or Friday after he was in the accident we collected donations just in the cafeteria during lunch,” said AHS Principal Steven Lemanski. “I was amazed at how generous people were. When counting the money we found a couple of \$50s and \$100s. We collected about \$2,500 total with that.” There is currently a penny war going on at the high school for more donations, and on Thursday, April 9, there will be a Red and Blue Day district-wide. Students and faculty are encouraged to wear red and blue in support of Scafuri. Donations will be collected on that day throughout the district.

Scafuri was traveling home from volleyball tryouts at approximately 9 p.m. on March 16. The car that struck him was allegedly driven by Jomaris Colon, 26, of Springfield. She has been charged with operating under the influence of alcohol, causing serious bodily injury, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, operating a motor vehicle without a license, leaving the scene of a personal injury accident, and obstruction of justice.

His family issued a press release last Thursday, stating he suffered several broken bones in the accident and is currently paralyzed from the chest down. He also has limited movement in his right arm. The Atlanta facility Scafuri is at specializes in spinal injuries and he is expected to be there for several weeks receiving treatment.



Agawam High School’s junior varsity volleyball team, which counted Alex Scafuri as a member, participated in a fundraiser for Alex during a game against Wilbraham & Monson Academy last week. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DAVID MILES



South Hadley High School students Owen Fogg, 16, Jonathan Brower, 16, Cassandra Fogg, 17, and Katelyn Vatter, 18, volunteer at the “Change Wars” fundraising table set up during student lunch periods. Funds raised from this student-led fundraiser will be given to Alex Scafuri’s family to help with medical costs. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY KRISTIN WILL

Fundraisers reach beyond Agawam

S. Hadley, Wilbraham & Monson students touched by peer’s ordeal

By Kristin Will

kwill@turley.com

It’s not just Agawam that’s pulling together for Alex Scafuri.

Students at Wilbraham & Monson Academy recently held fundraisers for Scafuri, as did the student body at South Hadley High School.

Although they don’t personally know Scafuri, the leaders of the South Hadley fundraiser said they sympathize with what happened to him. The teen was recently struck by a motorist in a hit-and-run accident in Agawam.

“I know what it’s like to walk home from practice, and if you think about it, that could have been any one of us,” said 17-year-old Cassandra Fogg, a senior at South Hadley.

Her brother, Owen Fogg, a 16-year-old sophomore, spearheaded a fundraiser to help.

“It came up as breaking news on my iPod,” said Owen Fogg, about how he learned of the accident. “I felt bad.”

He said he kept thinking about the accident and wanted to help. A fundraiser seemed to be the best way to do that.

“When Owen first approached me, I was so touched by his generosity,” said South Hadley High School Principal Diana Bonneville.

“I am so proud of our students but honestly, I am not surprised by their actions. Our students are very giving, caring and supportive of not only each other, but also of teens within our larger community. They know how important it is to give back to the community and to reach out and help others in their time of need.”

Called a “fundraiser war,” four large jars have been set up outside the school’s two cafeterias at every lunch period. Each jar represents a class, from freshman to senior.

Students, and even staff members, drop change or dollars into whichever class’ jar they’d like to see raise the most money.

Volunteers take turns manning the fundraising table during lunch, promoting the cause with posters, flyers and simply telling students about it as they walk past.

All of the collected proceeds will be given to Scafuri’s family for the teen’s recovery and medical expenses.

The class that ends up raising the most money for Scafuri will be able to bring in coffee during morning classes. Usually, students are only allowed to drink water during class.

Owen Fogg is hoping to raise at least \$300 from all the classes’ funds combined.

“This event is so tragic and senseless, and while it could have been prevented, it could honestly happen in any of our towns at any time,” said Bonneville. “We wish Alex best wishes for a speedy recovery.”

In the first week of a three-week fund-



Erin Demers, Mariam Abramian, Courtney Fallon and Lauren Foley organized a fundraiser last week for Alex Scafuri at Wilbraham & Monson Academy. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DAVID MILES

raiser, the students have raised \$130.81.

“It feels good,” said Cassandra Fogg. “It shows we’re reaching out to our peers. It’s teamwork. I think everybody should try to help people that they don’t know. Not only is it good for them, but good for yourself,” she said.

For 16-year-old sophomore student Jonathan Browen, paying it forward comes naturally. “Last year, I got helped out by Griffin’s Kids,” he said.

Owen Fogg said Scafuri’s family has expressed their appreciation for the fundraiser.

“They’re really surprised and happy that there’s other communities helping out,” he said. “They’re proud of our school for doing this.”

Educator Karen Geraghty agreed with those sentiments. She said it’s nice to see South Hadley students investing themselves in a different community.

“I’m so proud of them,” she said. “They’ve been well organized in how they presented this to the principal. They’ve been really supportive of one another.”

Owen Fogg said he’s trying to encourage everyone to donate whatever funds they can afford. He asks residents to donate to the GiveForward fundraiser set up in Scafuri’s name.

Academy fundraiser

Two Agawam residents who attend the Wilbraham & Monson Academy also recently held a fundraiser at their school. Last Thursday, Courtney Fallon and Lauren Foley operated a concession stand and sold T-shirts and bracelets at a volleyball game between Wilbraham & Monson and Agawam’s junior varsity team, on which Scafuri was a player prior to his injury.

“I know him in middle school and high school,” said Fallon. “He is a really nice person and I just wanted to do something to help him. He is from Agawam and we all have to stick together.”

Foley said Scafuri was a classmate of hers in middle school.

“He’s a really nice person and we shared his story at our class meeting,” said Foley. “A lot of the students were happy to make donations. We set up cans in some places on campus.”

Gregory A. Scibelli contributed to this report.



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SPORTS

GIRLS LACROSSE

Lady Brownies ready for strong season

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – Last season, the Agawam girls lacrosse team had a lot of stiff competition as the ranks of girls lacrosse continue to get tough.

The sport has come a long way and many other schools have been improving.

Agawam went just 11-7 in the regular season last year, suffering more losses than they were used to in previous years.

The Brownies had a lot of competitive games, including their first-ever playoff game against a team from Central Massachusetts. Agawam beat Marlborough 16-11 before suffering a familiar fate in the quarterfinals of the tournament against Longmeadow, the eventual sectional, and perennial champion.

Agawam is looking for a very strong season this year and is returning a lot of their starters this season.

On the offensive side of the ball, Katie Martin, Jackie Neilsen, Julia Serra, Marissa Ewing and Anna Pellegrino are all back this



Kristina Tran works out in the Agawam Junior High School gymnasium. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

year.

Each helped Agawam generate offense last year and each has another year of experience under their hat.

Martin has been especially busy in the offseason as she committed to a Division 1 college, Old Dominion University. Martin has played all over the field, has had a phenomenal career so far.

But she is only a junior.

She patrolled the midfield last year and scored 49 goals and had 11 assists. If she keeps up the pace this season, she should have the opportunity to easily surpass 100 career points.

Also on the team this season are Nina Bruno, Haley Kozlak, Hannah Kresock, Hailey Lyne, Melina Reid, Jill Scherpa, Gianna Stempel, Eliza Timms, Taia Vincenzo, and Allie Wysocki.

Kristina Tran is a returning goalie. Tran established herself as the starter during last season and is prepared to take the bulk of reps in the net this year. Tran is a junior this season.

Agawam had most of its struggles in the league, where it suf-

GIRLS | page 13

BASEBALL

Despite field conditions, Brownies working hard

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – With the current field conditions, the Agawam High School baseball team may not be on the field until the second or third week of April.

But the Brownies have been working hard to re-tool their team all the way down to the youth level that is feeding their program.

Coach Brian Rheault, in his second year managing the team, said several of his players have been doing skills training and volunteer work along with the normal preparation for the regular season, which is currently delayed due to snow only recently melting off the field and leaving it in a very muddy condition.

Agawam suffered through numerous injuries to pitchers last season as well as illness en route to a 2-18 season just one year after going to the Western Massachusetts Division 1 Championship. Rheault said the team was using junior varsity pitchers to get through the season, resulting in a lot of lopsided losses.

This year, the Brownies are healthier and have been doing a lot of hard work to get ready for the season.

Rheault says several players went through a strength and condition program put on by Pete Fatse at APP Sports Performance.

“We had 16 of our players take advantage of this 10-week

skills program,” said Rheault. “All of these new components of our program puts us in excellent position to compete this year.”

Rheault said he and members of his staff spent time putting on youth baseball clinics last summer for six weeks. The program was free of charge and players from the varsity team helped volunteer for the program.

“I believe our involvement at the youth level is vital to maintain a steady stream of talented players eventually reaching the high school ranks,” said Rheault.

In addition to several players returning this season, Anthony Basile, a state champion wrestler at 145 pounds, has joined the team this year and will be spending time at catcher and infield. Rheault calls Basile a crucial addition to the team.

Basile is a three-sport athlete who is playing football in college.

“Anthony Basile is exactly what this team needs,” said Rheault. “He is a tough, respected player and person among his peers. They all know how difficult it is to be a state champion wrestler but more important is the work ethic that he brings to our team. They see his work ethic on a daily basis.”

Two of Agawam’s pitchers are back this season with Griffin Gaudreault and Anthony Donahue. Joe Mercadante, another pitcher, has been lost for a period of time due to wrist surgery, but could be

BASEBALL | page 13

VOLLEYBALL

New Brownies ready to take on competition

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – Just because Agawam graduated five of seven members of last year’s starting lineup, does not mean the Brownies are not going to bring it throughout the new season.

The Brownies, who have reached the state finals in each of the past two seasons, are primed and ready for another return to the playoffs. Though assistant coach Kevin Pender says it is going to be difficult to replace the experience the team had last season, his players are working very hard to make it a seamless transition.

“Our theme definitely this year is that we are reloading,” said Pender. “When you lose that many seniors it causes you to have to put new guys in your starting



Brodie Keene warms up during practice. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

lineup.”

Pender says the younger players on the team are working very hard during the preseason and working hard from the first day he hopes will bring continued success for the program.

“I believe we are setting this team up to be successful for the next few years,” said Pender.

Two players who are back this season for the Brownies are senior captains Jeff Leclerc and Anthony Frigo.

Brodie Keene and Steve Mateus, both soccer players, joined the teams as seniors, but first time players. Pender says their height and jumping ability could be a huge asset to the team. Kris Page is another senior on the team.

Other players filling out the roster include Mark Johnson, Roman Mogan, Alan Burlachenko,

VOLLEYBALL | page 13

BOYS LACROSSE

Snow forces lax to prep in parking lot

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – There is only so much you can do in a parking lot made of asphalt.

But the Agawam boys lacrosse team, which is primed for another return to the tournament this season, is still practicing after school in the parking lot as of this week.

Coach Joseph Heney, who in his first year as head coach of the Brownies received Coach of the Year honors, says he is frustrated with the way the weather has



Elijah Bard takes a shot during practice in the high school parking lot. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

BOYS | page 14

Sports



Members of the Agawam High School girls lacrosse team do shuttle drills at practice Monday. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

GIRLS ■ from page 12

ferred six of their seven losses. Those losses came against Longmeadow, Minnechaug and Northampton. Longmeadow and Minnechaug have both historically been difficult opponents for the Brownies.

East Longmeadow also managed to nip Agawam by one goal last year.

Agawam has a schedule much similar to last year and includes familiar teams like Tantasqua, East Longmeadow, and West Springfield on the independent circuit. The Brownie will also see South Had-

ley, Cathedral, and have an independent matchup against Ellington, Conn., Scheduled.

Agawam is currently scheduled to open the season at home against East Longmeadow, pending the field at Harmon A. Smith Field being ready for play.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.



Agawam assistant coach Kevin Pender gets his team ready to practice. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

VOLLEYBALL ■ from page 12

Caleb Hodovanec, Garrett Hollander, Mike Basile, Mark Vilkhovoy and Connor McAnanama.

Pender says the program continues to grow, and after the varsity, there are 26 more players on two junior varsity teams that are hungry are working to develop into the next successful varsity players.

“Our program is definitely moving forward,” he said.

Pender has been helping employ different practice methods, including setting up two volleyball courts now during practice. The extra court has allowed players to get extra repetitions in various skills and have more going on with limited time in the high school gymnasium.

“Because of how things are outside, we are competing for gym time and we have three teams and three hours we are given to practice,” said Pender. “It has been really tough.”

Because of the gym time that has been needed for outdoor teams like baseball, softball, and track, Pender said two games have been postponed and moved to later in the season. The MIAA has delayed the cut-off dates for all sports by one week.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

BASEBALL ■ from page 12

back later this season.

Also on the roster this season are Division 1-committed first baseman Seamus Curran, Jack Bubie, Jack Chamberland, Dalton Drummond, Troy Gallerani, Cam Hartman, Austin Jones, Tyler Heer, Nate Mickey, Tym Regnier, Luke Rheault, Cam Rivest, Joe Oliver, Antonio Bruno, Kevin Lecuyer and Austin Sabadosa.

Rheault says Rivest will likely be the ace of the pitching staff and is a proven reliable

starter from last year. Gadreault, Donahue, Luke Rheault, and Gallerani will also see time on the mound. Several others will be battling for pitching time.

Agawam is currently scheduled to play at home on Thursday, April 9 against Amherst at 4 p.m.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

NFF banquet set for April 12

SPRINGFIELD – The Western Mass Chapter of the National Football Foundation will host the annual banquet on Sunday, April 12 at the Campus Center at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Doors will open at 5 p.m.

UMass Coach, Mark Whipple, will provide opening remarks and the Western Mass Chapter of the National Football Foundation will honor the All-Western

Mass football squad.

The event will also feature the Butova Award winner, awarded to a former football player who is devoted to the game of football and has distinguished himself later in life. This year, the award will be presented to U.S. Marshall John Gibbons.

Tickets are available for purchase by calling the American International College Athletic office at 413-205-3939.

Boat Massachusetts 2015 in town

AGAWAM - Boat Massachusetts is a state and nationally approved boating safety course, concentrating on the equipment and operating guidelines needed to enjoy boating in a safe and responsible way.

All graduates in the 12- through 15 year-old age group will be issued a safety certificate allowing them to operate a motorboat without adult supervision, as required by state law. The same is true for 16- and 17-year-old youth, who wish to operate a personal watercraft (jet ski, wave runner, etc.)

The course runs 10-12 hours in length. All classes are free of charge. Classes are for adults and youth 12 years of age and older. Youth must be 12 years old by May 6, 2014.

Family participation is encouraged and has proven to be very rewarding.

Classes will be held on Tuesdays from April 14-May 12 at the Roberta Doering School cafeteria from 6:15 to 9 p.m.

The program is free.

Register at mass.gov/ole

HCC annual Red Sox trip to Fenway

HOLYOKE - The Holyoke Community College baseball program third annual fundraiser Boston Red Sox bus trip to Fenway Park will take place on Sunday, June 14.

The game against the Toronto Blue Jays will start at 1:35 p.m.

The cost is \$85, which includes deluxe motor coach transportation, right field grandstand ticket and snacks and soft drinks.

Payment in full due by May 1.

The bus departs from the Bartley Fitness Center at Holyoke Community College

at 10 a.m. and leaves Fenway Park one half hour after the conclusion of the game.

Should there be a rainout prior to departure, the trip will be rescheduled according to the makeup date. Should the game get rained out while in transit or at the park, you would keep your tickets and be responsible for your own transportation to the makeup game.

To reserve your spot please contact former HCC baseball coach Terry Murphy via e-mail at tmurphy1hcc@comcast.net or former player Larry Maiolo at maiolola@comcast.net

COLLEGE NOTES

Wheeler places 13th at RIC Invitational

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Nichols College golf team finished in a tie for fifth place at the Rhode Island College Spring Invitational Saturday, April 4 at Triggs Golf Course.

The Bison recorded a team score of 648 (321-326; +47), which placed them into a tie Tufts and Western New England.

Senior Kevin Wheeler, of Agawam, – coming off a 78 on Friday – shot an 81 on Saturday to bring his two-day total to 159 (+15), which left him in a tie for 13th place.

Ritter helps out Wentworth

NASHUA, N.H. - Wentworth men's volleyball sophomore and Feeding Hills resident Colin Ritter had 33 assists in a 3-0 loss to Rivier on Saturday, April 4.

He also had five blocks and 21 assists in a matchup with the same program earlier this week.

Grassetti, Vecchiarelli deliver for Lancers

WORCESTER - Worcester State women's lacrosse senior Angela Grassetti, of Feeding Hills, logged a game-best six draws and freshman Alexis Vecchiarelli scored the game-tying goal in a 12-7 win over Salem State on Saturday, April 4.

Keeley assists in win over Coast Guard

SPRINGFIELD - Springfield College women's lacrosse player and Agawam resident Colleen Keeley picked up an assist in a 17-1 win over Coast Guard on Wednesday, April 1.

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Sports

BOYS ■ from page 12

turned out, but he and his players are going through it together and they are working with what they have.

“You can only do so much in a parking lot,” said Heney. “I really can’t wait for Agawam to get the turf field.”

Many teams that have turf fields have an advantage, not just with lacrosse, but all sports. Heney said the team has practiced once on the turf at Springfield College, but turf time at the school is difficult to get.

“Because of the snow, every school has teams wanting to use the turf to practice, including baseball and softball, because they can’t get on their fields,” said Heney.

Heney said practices are still limited. There is a focus on footwork and ball handling, but there is no body contact because of the risk of injury if a player were to hit the pavement hard. Heney is trying to turn the tough preseason into a strength and notes many other teams are going through the same thing.

“We are getting through this and using it to our advantage,” said Heney. “This is going to make us mentally tougher this season.”

Back this season for the Brownies are John Colwell and Chris Breault. After losing eight seniors last year, six that made an impact in the starting lineup, Heney is counting on Colwell and Breault to set up and provide scoring.

“These two both know a lot about success coming off their hockey season,” said Heney. “They know what a good program looks like.”

Nick Antico is expected the anchor down the defense and Tahiiir Blair is back in goal this year.

“Tahiiir is one of the most consistent guys we have on the team and he is even stopping shots on the asphalt,” said Heney.

Also back this season are Elijah Bard, Chris Basile, Zach Circosta, Gio Russo, Nick Hanchett, and Joe Cortese.



The Agawam High School boys lacrosse team has been relegated to practicing in the parking lot for the entire preseason due to poor field conditions stemming from the harsh winter. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Alex Amato, Alex Bishop, Alex Bourget, Tom Dagneis, Mario Ferrentino, Zachary Fielder, Cameron Fitzsimmons, Justin Hersom, Mike Largay, Matthew Lemke, Todd Maniscalchi, Rob Mirolli, Nathan Morrie, Cam Richard, Elijah Tobak, Joseph Ciurleo, and Keith Ruby are all on the roster this year.

The Brownies had already postponed games scheduled for last week. He was hoping the team would play on Tuesday, April 7 at West Springfield. West Springfield has a turf field that is ready for playing.

Feeding Hills St. Pat’s Day Road Race runners

HOLYOKE - A group of runners from Feeding Hills took part in the 2015 St. Patrick’s Day Road Race on Saturday, March 21.

Listed below are the results:

1	JONATHAN LAVALLEY	27	M	47:39
2	JACOB CONWAY	20	M	47:56
3	SCOTT GREENE	56	M	48:44
4	AMY GRINDLE	19	F	49:11
5	RICHARD BORSARI	29	M	49:30
6	JESSICA MEEHAN	30	F	49:44
7	JEFF SIGNET	39	M	50:12
8	ROBERT KING	41	M	52:07
9	HALEY PIOTROWSKI	17	F	52:16
10	CALEIGH FERGUSON	28	F	52:23
11	JOSHUA CONWAY	14	M	52:36
12	MARK SARRAZIN	46	M	53:26
13	CONNOR LONG	22	M	53:30
14	JESSICA CALABRESE	37	F	53:51
15	SELENA MACHIA	37	F	54:38
16	JOE CALABRESE	51	M	54:46
17	DANIELLE STARK	26	F	54:47
18	THOMAS BRENNAN	33	M	54:52
19	BRIANA SOLEK	23	F	55:04
20	BETH MULLER	51	F	55:04
21	DANIEL BOISSONNEAUTT	31	M	55:35
22	STEVE WALSH	25	M	55:49
23	EDWARD SZCZEPANEK	43	M	56:52
24	OMAR RAMOS	51	M	57:16
25	HEATHER DEFILIPI	43	F	58:13
26	LISA LEDOUX	39	F	58:48
27	MICHELLE CECCHI	48	F	58:51
28	BILL SABADOSA	45	M	58:57
29	JAMES LACROIX	50	M	59:08
30	KIRSTEN TAYLOR	53	F	59:43
31	ALYCIA RACKLIFFE	19	F	59:48
32	JEFF PRESZ	40	M	59:50
33	TARYN DOYLE	22	F	1:00:08
34	JIM MORIARTY	56	M	1:00:09
35	GLENN GRILLEY	43	M	1:00:27
36	STEVEN LUBARSKY	43	M	1:00:27
37	GARY GOULET	45	M	1:00:29
38	ED MUTTI	47	M	1:00:40
39	KEEGAN CRAVO	32	F	1:00:41
40	KATE MORIARTY	18	F	1:00:45
41	KELLY BRONSON	19	F	1:00:46
42	PAUL JUBINVILLE	51	M	1:00:58
43	BRIAN LONG	56	M	1:01:44
44	AL LIQUORI	49	M	1:01:49
45	CHRISTINE MACHOS	34	F	1:01:51
46	TANYA MORIARTY	40	F	1:01:58
47	MELISSA STAIRS	38	F	1:02:03
48	DANIEL PISE	47	M	1:02:07
49	DINA CHRISTOPHER	36	F	1:02:22
50	BRANDAN LEDOUX	17	M	1:02:36
51	CASSIE FREEMAN	27	F	1:02:56
52	ERIN THERIAULT	25	F	1:03:17
53	JEFFREY HAMER	29	M	1:03:32
54	KATELIN BOLDUC	25	F	1:03:36
55	NICK DIMAIO	27	M	1:03:38
56	JORDYN CONWAY	18	F	1:04:02
57	MEGAN CECCHI	19	F	1:04:02
58	ERIN KING	38	F	1:04:20
59	CHRISTINA BARNES	22	F	1:04:42
60	MICHAEL OBUE	59	M	1:05:28
61	PAUL GIUSTO	50	M	1:05:41
62	KELLY CAPUTO	36	F	1:06:17
63	JANE BENERAKIS	0	F	1:07:28
64	DANIELLE BACHINI	31	F	1:07:40
65	CHRISSY KIDDY	36	F	1:08:28
66	JACK CONWAY	10	M	1:10:03
67	JENNIFER GOULET	41	F	1:10:59
68	JOE DAVIS	61	M	1:11:51
69	KIM ESTREMER	37	F	1:12:11
70	GEORGE MORIARTY	47	M	1:12:27
71	CHIP MASON	63	M	1:14:37
72	BILL SPEAR	57	M	1:14:58
73	ERIN SULLIVAN	27	F	1:15:07
74	BETH GOKEY	37	F	1:16:54
75	AIDAN NOFTALL	9	M	1:17:42
76	MICHAEL NOFTALL	44	M	1:17:42
77	GREGG THERRIEN	47	M	1:18:35
78	JAMES MAHONEY	50	M	1:19:22
79	SHANON DUNCAN	32	F	1:19:26
80	MICHAEL MURPHY	44	M	1:41:43

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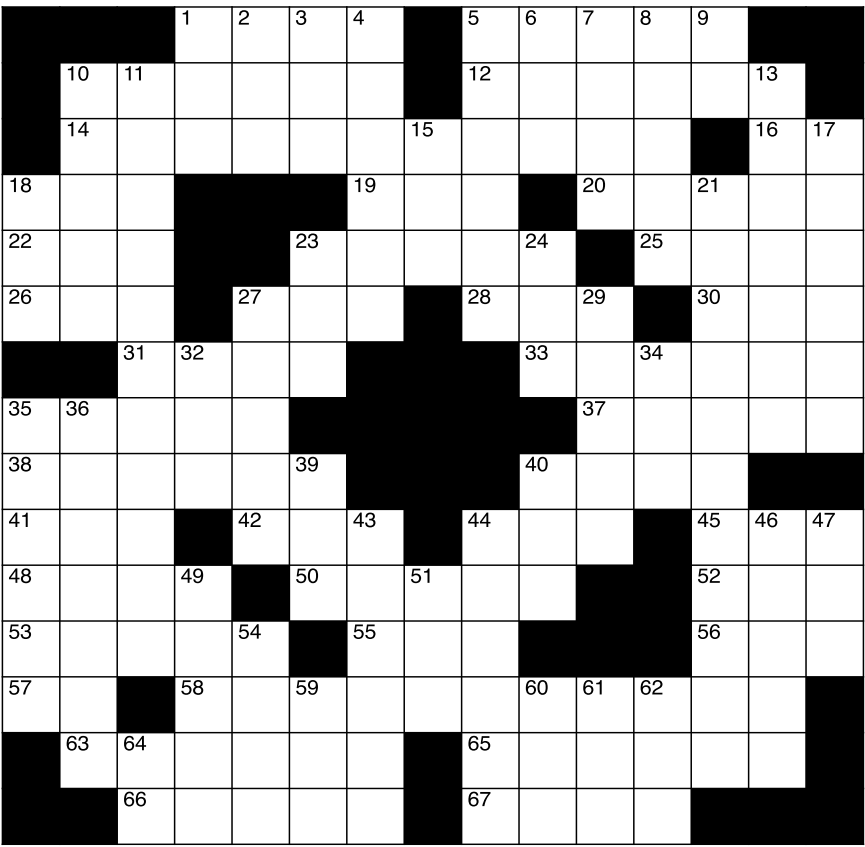
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Piece attached on one side
- 5. Flat-bottomed boat
- 10. Oblong cream puff
- 12. Czar nation
- 14. Jump rope fast
- 16. Ma’s partner
- 18. Ink writing implement
- 19. Wet spongy ground
- 20. “Gunga Din” screenwriter
- 22. Root mean square (abbr.)
- 23. Strobe
- 25. Former ruler of Iran
- 26. Provide with a top
- 27. Chit
- 28. Actor DeLuise
- 30. Point midway between E and SE
- 31. S.E. Asian nation
- 33. Protein basis of cheese
- 35. 1976 Music Pulitzer Ned
- 37. Belonging to Mrs. Parks
- 38. Tooth covering
- 40. Satisfy fully
- 41. Animal companion
- 42. Fix conclusively
- 44. 7th day (abbr.)
- 45. Pouch
- 48. Employee stock ownership plan
- 50. Fastened with adhesive or masking
- 52. Don’t know when yet
- 53. Eagle’s nest
- 55. Early modern jazz
- 56. Auricle
- 57. Atomic #81
- 58. Social class of manual laborers
- 63. Groups of regional animals
- 65. Release draft animals
- 66. Musical notations
- 67. Bearing or manner

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Grippe
- 2. Scientific workplace
- 3. Afflict
- 4. Construction of parts off-site
- 5. Cut back shrubs
- 6. Road furrow
- 7. The Nazarene author
- 8. Fire residues
- 9. 3rd tone
- 10. Excessive fluid accumulation
- 11. Fellow plotter
- 13. Inability to use or understand language
- 15. 12th calendar month
- 17. Greek capital
- 18. Communist China
- 21. Philadelphia sandwich
- 23. Neverland’s Peter
- 24. Medical man
- 27. Domesticates
- 29. Murdered in his bathtub
- 32. Dreaming sleep state
- 34. Drunkard
- 35. Double
- 36. Of one
- 39. Allow
- 40. Sorrowful
- 43. Dining hall furniture
- 44. Partition between 2 cavities
- 46. Reduce in amount
- 47. Where passengers ride
- 49. Sacred fig tree (alt. sp.)
- 51. Poet Edgar Allan
- 54. Sea eagle of Europe
- 59. An awkward stupid person
- 60. Black tropical American cuckoo
- 61. Whisky
- 62. Electrically charged atom
- 64. Atomic #89

Answers on page 15

Community Newspapers
Alive & Well!

READING ■ from page 1

Because of the intensity of the program, each Reading Recovery teacher instructs only four students in the fall and four in the spring. Belisle is the sole Reading Recovery teacher at Granger; the three other elementary schools have two Reading Recovery teachers because of their higher enrollments. Students not selected for the intervention program, but who need additional reading support, receive small group instruction from Reading Recovery teachers.

Multiple strategies

“We provide many opportunities for students to read familiar and new books at appropriate difficulty levels, to compose and write messages, to read with fluency, and to develop strategic behaviors that help them problem solve,” said Belisle.

Children also learn to use connections between letters and sounds and to use what they know about how words work in order to solve difficult words while maintaining meaning.

Additional responsibilities of Reading Recovery teachers include providing intensive reading support to K-4 students, supporting classroom teachers, maintaining book closets of grade-level books, and providing parent and family outreach.

Phelps School Reading Recovery teacher Susan Aubrey said one of the most important aspects of the program — which is not a packaged program — is the ability of trained teachers to focus on reading and writing strategies that help children become independent learners.

Aubrey said without Reading Recovery intervention, students would likely continue struggling. She said the program reduces the number of students referred for special education services — saving the district tens of thousands of dollars during those students’ academic careers.

Teachers Data from the MCAS English language arts (ELA) assessment for third graders is often used by Reading Recovery teachers to help verify that students are making long-term progress after participating in the short-term intervention program.

In 2009-10, 41 students participated in the Reading Recovery program. When they took the third grade English-language arts MCAS in 2012, the results showed that 21 percent scored in the “proficient” or “above proficient” categories; 40 percent scored “high-needs improvement”; 24 percent scored “low-needs improvement”; and 14 percent were in the “warning” category.

Lifelong skills

Diane Juzba is a staunch supporter of the Reading Recovery program — both as a School Committee member and as a parent.

“Neither of my two sons were strong readers, but this program helped them develop confidence and interest in reading,” she said.

Her oldest, Brandon, had difficulty with reading comprehension in first grade. Her youngest, Cody, had difficulty with phonics and word retrieval in kindergarten.

When Brandon entered second grade, he was reading at grade level.

“Brandon developed a system for pacing himself and began reading for pleasure as well as for learning. He graduated in 2013, but still reads for pleasure and is now a musician and a landscaper,” said Juzba.

Cody received reading intervention throughout first grade, participated in small group reading in second grade, and



Cody Juzba, a sophomore at AHS, is earning his pilot's license and plans to join the Air Force after graduation. He credits Reading Recovery, an individualized instruction reading program for 1st grader with reading difficulties. It gave him the confidence to not only enjoy reading but also to pursue his passion for flying. SUBMITTED PHOTO

The stats

Every year, Agawam's Reading Recovery teachers analyze and collect data about the program. Here are some statistics about students in the program that were compiled from the 2013-14 school year:

- * 60 first grade students received Reading Recovery.
- * 27 percent of students were second-language learners.
- * 67 percent of students reached or exceeded grade level reading (benchmark) by the end of the year.
- * 5 percent of students were approaching grade level reading (benchmark) by the end of the year.
- * 28 percent of students were below grade level reading (benchmark) at the end of the year.
- * Reading Recovery students gained an average of 15 text levels.
- * 152 students were serviced in small group interventions (K-4) with Reading Recovery teachers.

was diagnosed with dyslexia in third grade. “Reading Recovery gave him the confidence to enjoy reading — even though it was a struggle,” Juzba said.

Cody was reading at grade level by fifth grade and above grade level by seventh grade. Now a sophomore, Cody is earning his pilot's license and looking forward to joining the Air Force after graduation.

“Reading Recovery allowed my sons to develop a pace that was comfortable for them. With the individualized attention, they developed skills necessary to build on their strengths,” said Juzba. “Neither of them would be where they are today without Reading Recovery.”

“I love the results,” said Debbie Rowe, a Reading Recovery teacher at Clark Elementary School. “We can take nonreaders at the beginning of first grade and watch them soar to becoming independent grade-level readers in just 20 weeks.”

Karen O'Connor, the second Reading Recovery teacher at Clark, recalled a student who hated library day at school because he couldn't read and had to select “baby books” — which embarrassed him in front of his peers

“After receiving Reading Recovery, he was able to not only read higher level books, but also chapter books. His self-confidence made me proud to be a part of this program in Agawam,” O'Connor said.

‘Promising’ idea becomes powerful and valuable reading program

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

About 16 years ago Karen O'Connor, a teacher at Clark Elementary School, heard about a new reading program at Robinson Park School.

O'Connor went to the school to observe a lesson — and discovered a program unlike any other reading program she had ever seen.

“I applied to teach Reading Recovery and was accepted into the year-long training program that included on-the-job-experience teaching children as well as after-school classes taught by instructors affiliated with Lesley University in Cambridge,” recalled O'Connor.

The course was intense and rigorous — two full weeks in the summer and then three hours one night a week during the school year. Along with taking many hours of classroom instruction, O'Connor was required to teach behind a two-way mirror. Her professional teaching practices were closely observed by experienced Reading Recovery teacher leaders.

Reading Recovery began in Agawam when reading teacher Linda Orr, now retired and living in Florida, pursued a “promising” early intervention program she believed would help students who weren't making progress in reading.

Linda DeGray, currently a Title 1 teacher at Clark School, worked at Robinson Park School as a paraprofessional when Orr became Agawam's first Reading Recovery teacher. DeGray was later trained as Agawam's second Reading Recovery teacher and taught the program for 10 years.

“Linda learned about Reading Recovery through different professional articles and decided to find out more about it so she could bring it to her school,” recalled DeGray.

DeGray said Orr successfully started the program and was trained as the district's first Reading Recovery teacher because of support from her principal — current Agawam School Superintendent William Sapelli.

‘It made a lot of sense’

“Linda thought highly of the program and the information she provided made a lot of sense,” recalled Sapelli, who has been a strong advocate for Reading Recovery ever since.

Once Orr was trained, Sapelli piloted Reading Recovery at his school.

“It was a very successful experience at Robinson Park,” said Sapelli, who served as the school's principal from 1990 to 2002.

After two other teachers were trained, the program was expanded, with an additional Reading Recovery teacher for Robinson Park and one at Clark.

“After I was hired as a Reading Recovery teacher for Clark School, Agawam hired and trained one or two teachers per year until all the elementary schools had the program,” said DeGray.

She called Reading Recovery training “the best out there” for teachers. “I can't say enough good about the program — not just the results, but the level of training these teachers benefit from. Most Reading Recovery teachers would agree that nothing has taught them more about their own teaching than this program,” said DeGray.

“I feel it every day in my own teaching. I'm very fortunate to have had this training,” she added.

School Committee member Diane Juzba, whose two sons went through the reading intervention program, said Reading Recovery gives students the opportunity to work on skills they need to become lifelong readers.

“Early intervention has powerful results for students. Reading Recovery targets students at a very early age and enables educators to support and guide students based on their developing strengths,” said Juzba.

As a parent, she saw firsthand how dedicated the teachers were about helping her sons with their reading problems. “I see those results of their dedication every day in the lives of my sons,” she said. “As a School Committee member I'm supportive because Reading Recovery is a valuable, supportive, research-based, and educationally sound program.”

O'Connor said that being a Reading Recovery teacher gives her “a sense of pride as I work with struggling readers and writers who become confident and independent learners. It also gives me a sense of commitment to the many children who will enter the program.”

Sapelli said he remains steadfast in his support for the program he helped launch two decades ago. “There is extensive teacher training and a complete commitment by those teachers. They've helped hundreds of students since we began Reading Recovery, so there's no question that it works.”

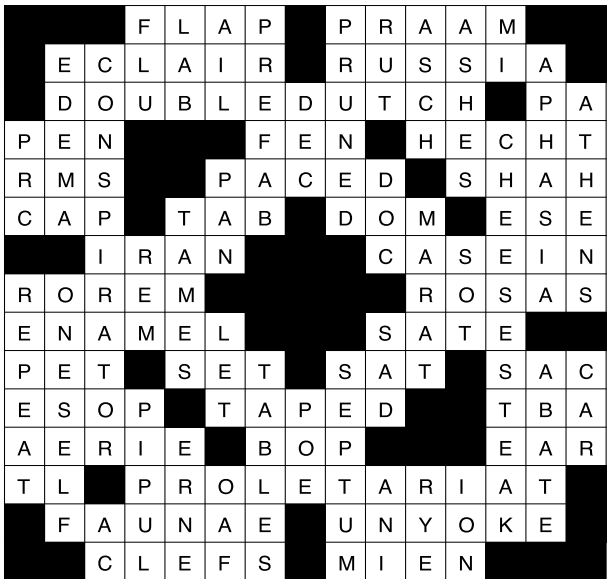
DEATH NOTICES

Brunelle, Donald H.
Died March 30, 2015
Funeral April 2, 2015
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home
Agawam

Daniels, Stephen W.
Died April 4, 2015
Funeral April 10, 2015
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Russo, Joseph T.
Died March 29, 2015
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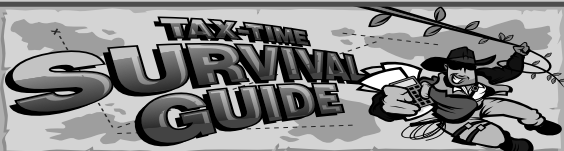
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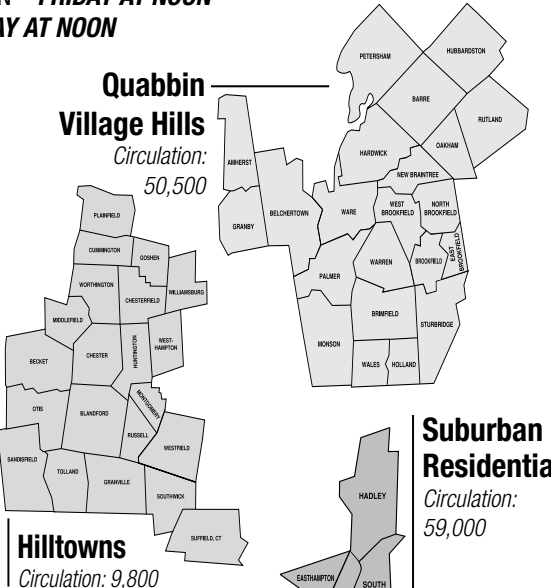
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HARDWICK: 3 BR, 1 BA ranch across from Ware River on 1.141 acres, man made 9 X 4 pond, 16 X 25 shed, finished basement w/office, laundry, game room, pellet stove and hot tub. \$169,900

MONSON: 3 BR, 2 BA ranch hardwoods throughout, painted whole interior, gleaming hardwoods, refinished cabinets, roof is 7 years old. Potential in law! \$199,900

WARE: Charming Victorian in pristine condition w/carriage house, 3 BR, 1 BA stain glass, crown molding, tray ceilings, hardwood flooring, combination KT and Butler's pantry. \$205,000

WEST BROOKFIELD: 3 BR 1 BA, ranch updates: siding, windows, electric panel, KT floor, painted cabinets, granite countertops, new appliances and lighting. Walk out basement w/FP. Great starter home! \$182,000

WEST BROOKFIELD: Great location for an in-home business. The home is laid out in a fashion that would allow a separate area for an office and private living area. Upgrades: KT w/granite, hardwoods and tile, 3 BR, 2 BA \$240,000

Dorrinda 978-434-1990
O'Keefe-Shea 413-967-5463
Glenn Moulton 413-477-8780
Jill Stogittis 508-612-4794
Mary Hicks 508-867-2727
Alan Varnum 508-523-0114
Bruce Martin 508-331-9031
Joe Chenevert
Michael
McQuestion 508-362-0533

Condos For Sale

LUDLOW PONDVIEW MANOR CONDO \$239,000 2 Bed 2.5 Bath. Attached 1 car garage. Gated community. MLS 71790480. Call (413) 896-3624.

Mobile Homes

WESTFIELD HAMPDEN VILLAGE 2 bedrooms, 14'x67" Beautiful sunlit yard, covered patio, appliances, shingles, shed, thermopanels, a/c \$49,900. 413-593-9961
DASAP.MHVILLAGE.COM

For Rent

INDIAN ORCHARD 4 Room apt., 2 BR, stove, refrig., a/c, carpeted \$590 includes hot water only (413)543-3062. No pets.

SOUTH HADLEY, 3 Taylor St., 5 room attached Ranch, deck, large backyard, off-street parking for 2 cars, stove, refrig. microwave, D/W, laundry connection. \$1,000/mo plus utilities. Heat is gas forced hot air. 1st, last, sec. No pets/ no smokers. Call Michael (413)348-4832.

WARREN- 2ND FLOOR, 3 bedrooms, recently renovated, private driveway, 1st last security, no pets/smoking, utilities not included, \$750/month (413)783-0601

For Rent



ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

MONSON. 3 BEDROOM. Completely renovated, propane heat, lower than oil, \$100 toward first fill-up. **NO PETS!!!** \$900/ mo. F/L/S Call (413)783-0192.

PALMER 2 BR. \$925/ mo. 1 mi to Pike. Beautifully renovated. Off-street parking. Utilities not included. Available March 1. (413)427-2706.

For Rent

NEAR ELMS -- 1,200 SF., 3 BD 1BA White St., near Elms College, Szot Park, highway. 1st fl., off-street pkg, cable ready. Avail. immed. Contact www.kathymontemagni.com, Keller Williams Realty (413)426-7355

PALMER 1BR - Quiet Secure Country Location. Locked Storage & Laundry in Basement. K/DR Combo - LR-Full Bath. Nice Layout. No Smoke/Pets. 1st/last/sec. \$750.00. Breton Est. (413)283-6940

PALMER AREA 1 BR mobile home on private lot \$625/mo, Gas heat, electric not included. 1st, last, security. No pets. Call Pete (413)668-6533

WARE- BEAUTIFUL, SUNNY 3 BR TOWNHOUSE APT. \$800 plus utilities, w/d hook-up, storage. No smoking, no pets. Credit check/references (413)320-5784.

WARE- LARGE STUDIO apartment. Close to downtown. Electric/ propane heat. Water & sewer included. Good area. First & Security \$475/ mo (413)967-7772.

Commercial Rentals

INDUSTRIAL ZONED. FOUR buildings available, 500 to 5,000 sq.ft. Breckenridge St., Palmer. Also entertain offers for sale 10 acres (413)231-3131.

Vacation Rentals

WARM WEATHER IS year round in Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. \$3500. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, April 10

AN '80s THROWBACK DANCE will be held at the Westfield Elks Lodge, 56 Franklin Ave., at 7 p.m. Funds raised will support the Westfield Food Pantry, 101 Meadow St. Tickets are \$20 per person and may be purchased at the Food Pantry during business hours, online at www.westfieldfoodpantry.org or at the door. Tickets purchased online can be mailed or picked up from the food pantry.

THE CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR ANIMALS will host a benefit tag sale Friday, April 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Wachogue Congregational Church, 80 Arvilla St., Springfield. For information to donate items, call Susan at 413-782-9006. All proceeds will help dogs and cats in need in Western Massachusetts.

Sunday, April 12

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St. Presentation and discussion will include facts about the first gold coins struck by the U.S. Mint. A small auction will take place, refreshments available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-596-9871.

Tuesday, April 14

THE AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB will present "Annie Jr." Tuesday and Wednesday, April 14 and 15, at 7 p.m. in the school's auditorium. Tickets, which are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children and free for all those under the age of 5, will be sold at the door.

Thursday, April 16

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Win-slow Homer as a Maker of Modern Art in the Later 1870s" featuring Marc Simpson, independent scholar, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Friday, April 17

THE MEMORY LANE CHORUS will present two performances of the "Love Songs Concert" at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St.; one at 1:30 p.m. and one at 7 p.m. The concerts are free, but a donation will be taken to help with expenses.

TURKISH CULTURAL NIGHT at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., at 6 p.m. will feature video highlights of the culture of Turkey, Turkish appetizers and authentic coffee. For more information, call 413-789-1550 ext. 8855.

Sunday, April 19

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will hold its semi-annual coin show at the Dante Club, 1198 Memorial Ave. from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Coin dealers will be exhibiting as well as buying and selling coins and giving free appraisals. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-596-9871.

Tuesday, April 21

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will meet at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

THE TUESDAY MORNING MUSIC CONCERT at Trinity United Methodist Church, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield, will host a guest artist program with the Claflin Hill Symphony Chamber Players, at 10:30 a.m. Free refreshments are provided after the performances. For more information, contact the church.

Friday, April 24

THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY, 750 Cooper St., will host a movie matinee at 3 p.m. Area children are invited to bring a favorite stuffed puppy to watch, "101 Dalmations." It is rated G and is 80 minutes long. Children ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday, April 25

ASTRONOMY DAY WILL BE HELD from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Springfield Sci-

‘Rapunzel’ at Red Door



Rapunzel (Jaime Pearsons of Agawam) spends time in her tower at the Red Door Theatre, 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills, waiting for the performance of "Rapunzel Untangled" to be presented Saturday, April 11. The 11 a.m. show is sold out, but tickets were still available earlier this week for the 9:30 a.m. show. Reservations to this audience-participatory play for children ages 3 to 11 are \$6 each and may be reserved by calling 413-789-2026. For more information, visit www.red-doortheatre.com. SUBMITTED PHOTO

ence Museum, on the Quadrangle at 21 Edwards St. The event is free with museum admission. For more information, call 413-263-6800 ext. 318.

Sunday, April 26

THE FEEDING HILLS WELLNESS CENTER, 567 Springfield St., will host a vendor fair, free to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A bake sale will take place during the fair, with all proceeds from the bake sale to benefit Alex Scafuri, a student at AHS that was critically injured when hit by a car recently on Springfield Street. For information on how to donate baked goods, call 413-244-4660.

Thursday, April 30

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL VISUAL ART DEPARTMENT AND PERFORMING ART DEPARTMENT will present the annual Spring Arts Festival from 6:30 to 9 p.m. The National Art Honors classes will display art from the year including 40 military portraits of Agawam veterans. For more information, call 413-821-0530.

Sunday, May 3

A SPRING CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR will take place at the Polish American Club of Agawam, 139 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Over 30 local vendors and crafters will be there, offering plants, local organic produce, jewelry, candles, make-up, holistic vendors, clothing items, and more.

THE PARK AND THE PLANES, a guided walk and talk, will take place from 1 to 2:45 p.m. at Chicopee State Park, 570 Burnett Road. It is 2.8 miles round-trip, paved path, rolling terrain, moderate pace. Walking shoes, water, sunscreen, and insect repellent recommended. Heavy rain cancels. Meet in the parking lot next to the pavilion. Free program. For more information, call 413-584-6788.

Friday, May 8

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will present "A First-Person Visit With General Ulysses S. Grant," at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., at 7 p.m. as part of its Applause Series. The library can be reached by phone at 413-789-1550. This and all Applause Series events are free and open to the public.

Wednesday, May 13

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$7 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

ONGOING

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

THE LADIES GLEE CLUB AND MEN'S CHOIR at the Springfield Turnverein, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, are back to work. Practice is held every Wednesday with the ladies beginning at 7 p.m. followed by the men at 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. There is space available for anyone interested in joining.

A BREAST CANCER AND MASTECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

AN ALL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

A BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Wednesday of each month at Heritage Woods Assisted Facility, 462 Main St., Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAYGROUP, which takes place at the church at 745 Main St., Agawam, is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver and meets weekly on Thursdays from 9:30-11 a.m. It includes crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. For more information, call 413-786-7111 or email jbrownacc@verizon.net.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at 888-613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.

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